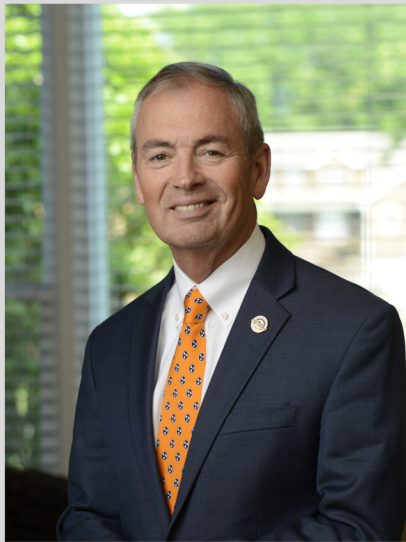




JAN 2021 | VOL. 11 | ISSUE 1

THE COUNTY CONNECTION

A Monthly Newsletter from Mayor Randall Hutto
Mt. Juliet | Lebanon | Watertown



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A Word from Mayor Hutto...

A new year is here! While last year was a journey, we hope that the arrival of a vaccine and the new year will bring this journey closer to an end. The new year brings with it new goals, and we have plenty of aspirations for Wilson County! We are blessed to have many dedicated teams that work to ensure that our goals are met. One reason why Wilson County is "the Place to Be" is because of the hardworking individuals that have devoted their lives to public service. We are so thankful for our first responders, both in the city and the county, as well as our medical personnel across the county, including the Vanderbilt Wilson County Hospital and our free-standing Emergency Room. We are thankful for our state-run Health Department, which has the enormous tasks of both COVID-19 testing and administering the COVID-19 vaccine. COVID-19 vaccines are available in Wilson County for Phases 1a1, 1a2, and ages seventy-five and up. The Wilson County Health Department is currently overwhelmed due to a large volume of incoming calls, but citizens are encouraged to continue calling the Health Department at 615/444-5325 to schedule appointments. There are two ways to schedule your appointment. First, if you have a computer or a smartphone, visit the link on the bottom of page 05 of this newsletter for more information on online registration. When you go to that website it will say that all appointments are filled but keep checking! New appointments will become available. Second, if you do not have a computer or a smartphone, please call the Wilson County Health Department at 615/444-5325 and tell them that you need to schedule an appointment and that you do not use the internet. From there, a staff member will either schedule your appointment or add you to the waiting list. It is important to remember that the Wilson County Health Department is experiencing a high volume of incoming calls, and that it may take a little while to get in touch with them. Please continue to call them until you can get in touch with a staff member. The Wilson County Health Department is open Monday-Friday from 8:00AM-4:30PM. COVID-19 testing is available on Monday-Friday from 9:00AM-1:00PM at the Wilson County Ag Center, and the vaccinations are done at an off-site location, so there is no need to go to the Health Department location. The Wilson County Health Department is run by the Tennessee Department of Health. My office is working diligently to assist the Wilson County Health Department in providing this important information to our citizens. Alfred Lord Tennyson once wrote, "Hope smiles from the threshold of the year to come, whispering 'it will be happier'..." If there is one thing that we have for the new year, it is hope. Throughout all the challenges that we have faced, one fact remains certain: we are optimistic for the times ahead!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Randall Hutto".

Commissioner Spotlight: Wendell Marlowe District 22



Contact INFORMATION

434 Tyrone Road Mt. Juliet
TN 37122

+1 (615) 758-5277

Wilson County LANDFILL

WINTER HOURS

Monday-Friday
7:00AM-3:00PM

CLOSED SATURDAY

ALL LOADS MUST BE CHECKED INTO
THE SCALE HOUSE BY 2:30 P.M.

PLEASE DIRECT QUESTIONS
TO 615.449.6684

PLASTIC RECYCLING IS AVAILABLE AT
WILSON COUNTY CONVENIENCE
CENTERS! MILK JUGS AND SODA
BOTTLES MUST BE REMOVED FROM
PLASTIC BAGS BEFORE ENTERING THE
RECYCLING BINS.



"We stand with Mayor Hutto and his efforts to curb the rising number of COVID-19 infections in Wilson County. And we are asking for your help," said Jay Hinesley, President of Vanderbilt Wilson County Hospital.

"As the county's only hospital, we have a vested interest in the health and wellbeing of every citizen in our community. After months of research and epidemiological data, we are sure that wearing a mask helps save lives. A study released November 10 by Vanderbilt's Department of Health Policy shows that in 67 Tennessee counties that have not focused on masking efforts the death rate from COVID is double than those counties that have.

"Please take this to heart and practice COVID safety fundamentals to protect your loved ones and yourself -- wear a mask, wash your hands frequently, and remember to socially distance and avoid large crowds."

#MasksSaveLives
#VanderbiltHealth



COLD CHAIN TECHNOLOGY OPENS NEW FACILITY IN LEBANON

Cold Chain Technologies (C.C.T.) held an event on December 14, 2020 to recognize the opening of its newest facility located in Lebanon, Tennessee. C.C.T.'s Chief Executive Officer, Ranjeet Banerjee, welcomed: Senator Marsha Blackburn, Senator-elect Bill Hagerty, Congressman John Rose, and several state and local leaders, including Mayor Hutto. "We are thrilled to have so many federal, state and local leaders with us today as we open our new facility and work hand-in-hand with the federal government to help distribute the COVID-19 vaccine. Cold Chain Technologies has a proven track record of designing and producing thermal engineering solutions to meet the demands in critical times like these. Our packing solutions are more than capable of handling these vaccines during transit, and we are looking forward to continuing to work more closely with the leaders of Tennessee as we tackle this COVID challenge." Cold Chain Technologies is a leading global provider of reusable and single-use thermal packaging solutions for the shipment of temperature-sensitive material. As part of this nationwide expansion to meet the growing demands of global vaccine distribution, the new 255,000+ square foot cold chain facility, complete with Koolit refrigerant manufacturing and work cells for C.C.T.'s KoolTemp EcoFlex, is fully equipped to support the temperature-sensitive supply chain requirements of the COVID-19 vaccine. This will put Wilson County, Tennessee at the heart of distributing the COVID-19 vaccine. Cold Chain Technologies' Chief Commercial Officer Anthony "TJ" Rizzo attended the event and released the following statement, "Tennessee is leading the nation in the distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine, and we are so pleased to be a part of this historic effort. Cold Chain Technologies has over 50 years of experience ensuring product safety in transit, and we are more than ready to help join this cause. Thank you to Tennessee's elected leaders for joining us today and visiting our site, we look forward to continuing our partnership with this great state."



ROCKWOOD RECYCLING REAL CHRISTMAS TREES

Rockwood Sustainable Solutions works to manage waste materials in such a way that they produce a circular benefit for businesses, communities, and the environment. Rockwood Sustainable Solutions will offer free Christmas tree recycling to Wilson County residents for the 4th consecutive year. Christmas tree recycling will be available now through January 11, 2021. Rockwood Sustainable Solutions will be accepting REAL Christmas trees at their site, located at 510 Hartmann Drive in Lebanon. A large container will be placed near the road on-site for residents to drop off their trees. Trees may be dropped off during any time of the day. All trees will be 100% recycled into landscaping mulch, compost, or fuel for clean electricity. All lights and ornaments must be removed. There will also be a box located on-site for those who wish to recycle their Christmas lights. If you have broken Christmas lights that have been removed from your tree, there will be a small box on-site to these deposit lights.



EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE FOR TENNESSEANS

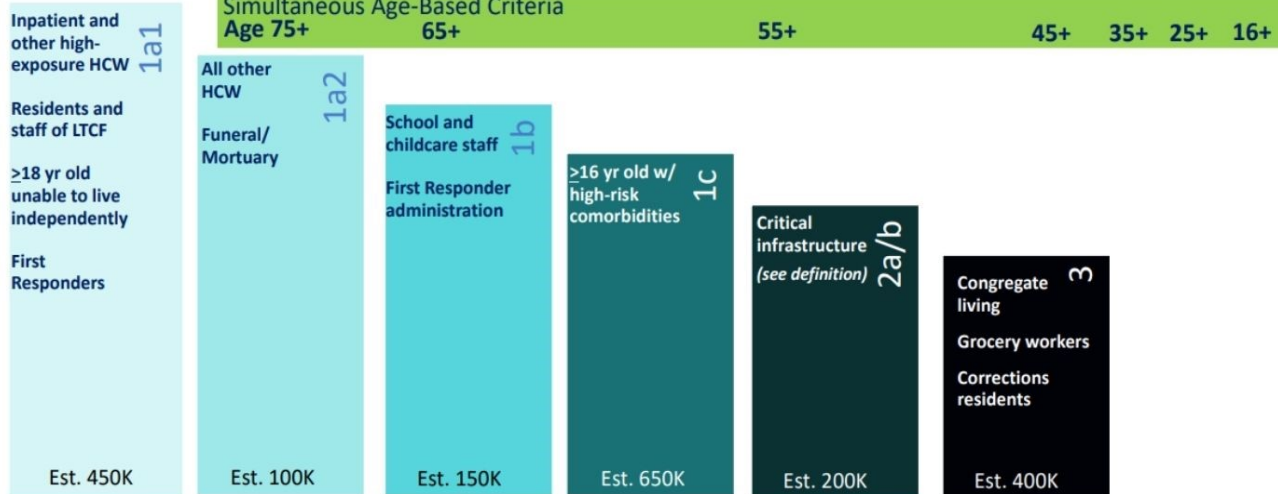
Tennesseans are ready to get back to work, and new programs have been launched to add ease to the job search process. On December 9, 2020 Governor Lee and the Labor and Workforce Development Commissioner, Jeff McCord, announced a new campaign that promotes available employment opportunities throughout Tennessee. As the COVID-19 pandemic caused significant disruptions to the employment and economy across Tennessee, this new campaign encourages Tennesseans to secure one of the thousands of available jobs. Those in search of employment can visit the website [Jobs4TN.gov](https://www.tn.gov/jobs4tn), which has nearly 240,000 active job postings at all skill levels. Furthermore, the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development launched the first Tennessee Virtual American Job Center on December 11, 2020. The Virtual American Job Center's goal is to provide users with the information found at over 80 American Job Centers throughout Tennessee. Visitors of the site can view a list of services and programs that have the potential to improve their employment situation or provide financial assistance that will help them join the state's workforce. The viewer can find information on eligibility requirements, documents needed to apply, and the next steps needed to participate in the program. Users can also make appointments to meet with career specialists in their area virtually, over the phone, or at the nearest American Job Center. Visit the Tennessee Virtual American Job Center at [TNVirtualAJC.com](https://www.tn.gov/workforce/general-resources/news/2020/12/11/tennessee-launches-virtual-american-job-center-website.html) to see what it has to offer! Visit <https://www.tn.gov/workforce/general-resources/news/2020/12/11/tennessee-launches-virtual-american-job-center-website.html> for more information.

Vaccine Allocation Phases (Revised)

Equity is a crosscutting consideration:

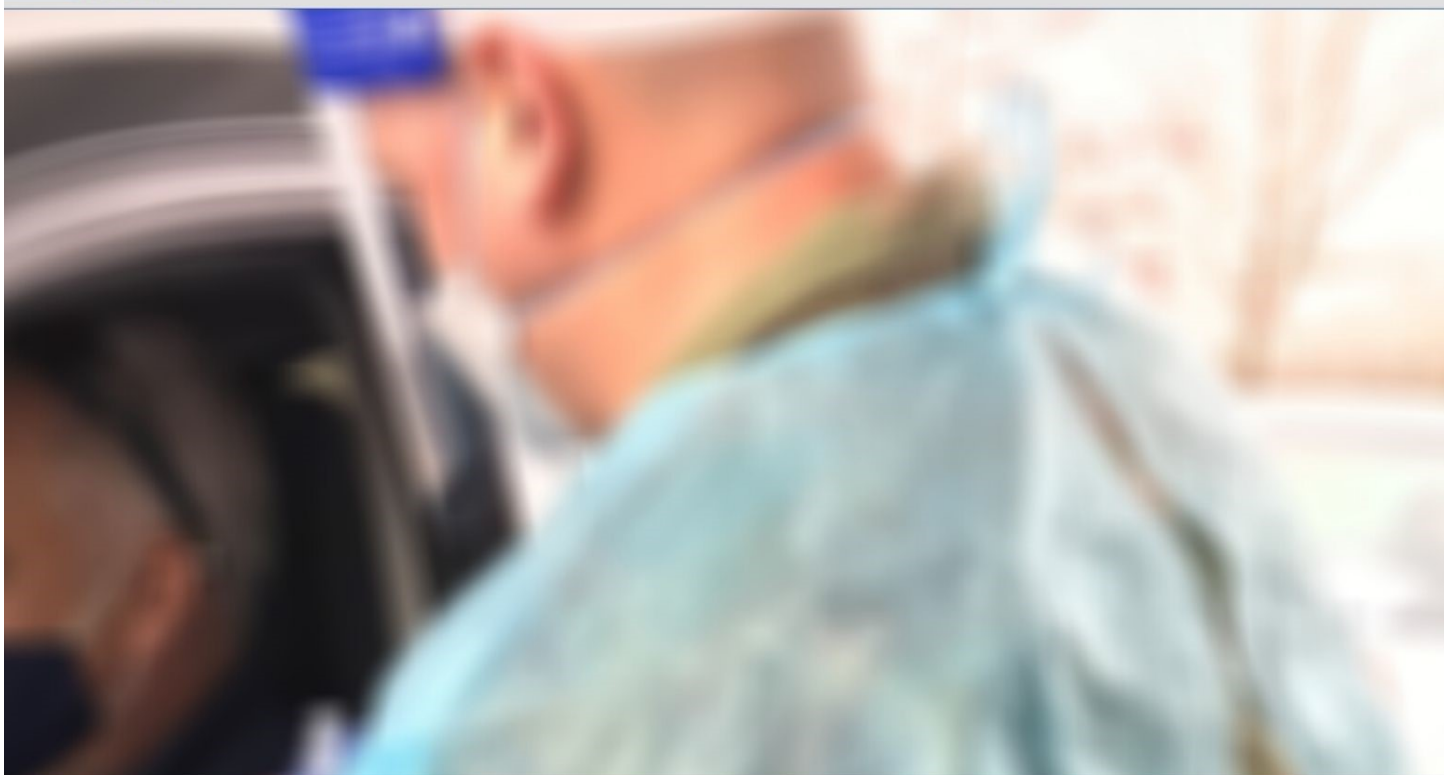
In each population group, vaccine access should be prioritized for geographic areas identified through CDC's Social Vulnerability Index or another more specific index.

Estimated: Dec 2020-----Jan 2021-----Feb/Mar-----Mar/Q2-----Q2-----Q2/Q3-----Q3/Q4



Estimated timeline and phases are preliminary and subject to change.

Adapted from <https://www.nap.edu/catalog/25917/framework-for-equitable-allocation-of-covid-19-vaccine>



COVID-19 Vaccinations as of 1/4/2021:

The Wilson County Health Department is currently overwhelmed due to a large volume of incoming calls, but citizens are encouraged to continue calling the Health Department at 615/444-5325 to schedule appointments, or visit this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/wilson-county-covid-vaccination>.

These scheduled times are currently full; however, appointment availability will soon increase.

WAYNE CROOK RETIRES

Wayne Crook retired on Friday, December 18, 2020 from Wilson County Government's Maintenance Department. Wayne worked as a Maintenance Supervisor in the Maintenance Department for over 17 years. Robert Baines, Director of Maintenance, organized a surprise retirement parade to bid Wayne farewell. Employees, family, and friends participated in the parade to celebrate Wayne's retirement while maintaining necessary safety guidelines during the COVID-19 pandemic. "We will miss Wayne. He has been a dedicated worker and has always taken care of anything that came about in our county buildings. Wayne can practically fix anything," said Robert Baines. During his seventeen years working for the county, Wayne assisted in maintaining all the county buildings, from plumbing to electrical, to mechanical, and even to shoveling snow and fixing smaller office equipment issues. Wayne has always been a person you can count on to get the job done, no matter how long it would take to do it. Now that he is retired, Wayne plans to spend more time relaxing and enjoying his family. Wayne, we will miss you, and we wish you a very happy retirement!



Pictured: Wayne Crook with his wife, two daughters, and granddaughter as they watched his co-workers and friends drive by in the retirement parade.

WILSON COUNTY FAIR LIVESTOCK SHOWS RECEIVE I.A.F.E. AWARDS



While 2020 was known as the year of trials and tribulations the Wilson County Livestock Shows proved to be an upbeat experience for livestock exhibitors. While most traditional fairs were closed, the International Association of Fairs and Expositions (I.A.F.E.) updated their contests so more Fairs could still compete for awards. Industry professionals judged the entries from over 1,800 members from around the globe and presented awards to winners during the annual I.A.F.E. Convention, which was held virtually in December 2020. Wilson County received a total of fourteen awards in four categories, including: Agriculture Awards, Communication Awards, Sponsorship Awards and Non-Fair Facility Usage. Congratulations to all the winners and to all to all of those who participated despite last year's setbacks!

A graphic with a dark wood background. On the left, there is a pair of white headphones, a blue knitted scarf, a white coffee cup with "STAY HOME" written on it, and a brown envelope with a pen. On the right, the text reads: "Spread kindness, not germs! TAKE CARE OF OTHERS BY TAKING CARE OF YOURSELF. If you're sick, stay home except when seeking medical care. We can't wait to see you again once you're well! #WILSONCOUNTYCARES".

Spread kindness, not germs!

TAKE CARE OF OTHERS BY
TAKING CARE OF
YOURSELF.

If you're sick, stay home
except when seeking
medical care. We can't
wait to see you again
once you're well!

#WILSONCOUNTYCARES

A graphic featuring a waving American flag on the left side. The text on the right reads: "Wilson County Government Offices will be closed on January 18, 2021 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day".

Wilson County
Government Offices
will be closed on
January 18, 2021
in observance of
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT SPREADS HEALTH AND SAFETY MESSAGES ALONG WITH HOLIDAY CHEER

Hearing all of the ways to prevent and slow the spread of COVID-19 can be tiresome. However, our local law enforcement agencies have thought of creative ways to get the word out about COVID-19 prevention while spreading holiday cheer. On December 21, 2020, the Mt. Juliet Police Department escorted Santa Claus throughout the city. Residents were able to see Santa from their porches and front yards. While driving around town, an important public safety announcement followed Santa, reminding citizens to take preventative measures that can help slow the spread of COVID-19. The Wilson County Mayor's Office would like to send a special thank you to all of our local law enforcement agencies that are working hard to keep Wilson Countians safe, especially during this time!!





Aging brings many joys, but our older years can also bring difficult life transitions and the loss of loved ones.

Senior Life Solutions, an intensive outpatient group therapy program, is designed to meet the needs of individuals over the age of 65 struggling with depression and anxiety often related to aging.

If you or someone you know is experiencing any of the following, we can help:

- Recently experienced a traumatic event
- Loss of spouse or close family member
- Loss of interest in previously enjoyed activities
- Changes in appetite
- Difficulty sleeping
- Loss of energy
- Feelings of sadness or grief lasting more than two weeks
- Feelings of worthlessness or hopelessness

Following an individual assessment, group participants meet three times per week in a supportive, encouraging setting. Anyone can refer individuals to the group including family members, physicians, or other health professionals.

Depression is not a normal part of growing older. You're not alone.

**MEET THE
SENIOR LIFE SOLUTIONS
TEAM**

Our patients are offered services by an interdisciplinary team of caring, experienced, behavioral health professionals, which includes a psychiatrist, licensed therapist, and registered nurse. For more information about Senior Life Solutions, contact our dedicated staff at Trousdale Medical Center.

Learn More & Visit:
www.mytrousdalemedical.com

☎ (615) 374-9991
📍 502 Church Street
Hartsville, TN 37074

EATING SMART and Moving More

Join us for a
series of workshops

Learn how to



- Cook
- Save money on food
- Plan meals



- Eat well
- Keep your food safe
- Be active

Classes are **FREE** to adults who are eligible for any assistance programs such as WIC, Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) or Head Start.

Dates: Every Tuesday for 8 weeks beginning January 19th, 2021

Time: 5:00 PM

Location: Virtual via Zoom

Contact: Leslyne Watkins, email lwatkin7@utk.edu
or call 615-444-9584

Real. Life. Solutions.™

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES
UT EXTENSION
INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

This material was partially funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) under an agreement with the State of Tennessee and partially funded by USDA's Expanded Food and Nutrition Education (EFNEP) program.



This institution is an equal opportunity provider.
Programs in agriculture and natural resources, 4-H youth development, family and consumer sciences, and resource development. University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture and county governments cooperating. UT Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

UGLY SWEATER DAY

Thanks to all the Wilson County Government Offices that participated in Ugly Sweater Day!

